

HONORING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA). NASDA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization which represents the commissioners, secretaries, and directors of agriculture from all fifty states and four U.S. territories. The State departments of agriculture have served not only the farmers and ranchers of America, but also American consumers for a significant portion of our nation's history.

NASDA is a highly effective association which serves to grow and enhance agriculture by forging partnerships and creating consensus to achieve sound policy outcomes between state departments of agriculture, the federal government, and stakeholders. These partnerships are apparent in the halls of almost every office building in the District of Columbia. I rely on the hard-working men and women in the Texas Department of Agriculture to provide me with perspectives on how federal policy is impacting boots on the ground agriculture. I'm sure my colleagues rely on their state department of agriculture in similar ways.

NASDA is an active partner with the United States Department of Agriculture through a longstanding cooperative agreement to employ a nationwide network of enumerators in support of the mission of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The data collected through this partnership informs a broad spectrum of legislative and regulatory initiatives, including farm programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Agriculture which I have the honor to chair.

NASDA and its members likewise play a critical role informing Congress and the executive branch regarding the operation of federal and state programs covering everything from animal and plant health, food safety and marketing, nutrition, and literally hundreds of other consumer services.

NASDA exists to amplify the unique voice of all state departments of agriculture. NASDA members are able to amplify their national voice by achieving consensus on otherwise contentious issues such as threatened and endangered species, agriculture labor, and water quality.

Mr. Speaker, I join the members and stakeholders of NASDA in celebrating their 100th year of advocating for American agriculture. I wish NASDA many more years of public service to American agriculture at the critical nexus of state and federal policy.

RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise in

honor of Black History Month and its 2016 theme—Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories. This year's theme reflects on locations across the United States that are remembered for the important role each has played in pursuit of civil rights and justice.

As Americans, it is important that we honor and celebrate our nation's greatest advocates for freedom and equal rights for all. During this month and always, we pay tribute to the heroes of American history as we recall the tremendous sacrifice and the immense struggle of those who fought, and continue to fight, for equality, and the remarkable impact their contributions have had in shaping our great nation.

From generation to generation, from those who have experienced or witnessed events that have led to change to the young children who listen to stories of their grandparents or the lessons taught in school, locations, much like the names of those who have toiled in hopes of a better society, are forever engrained in the hearts and minds of the American people. From the birthplaces of our greatest African American leaders to stops along the Underground Railroad, from sites of tragic events that brought about change to the churches that have inspired hope among communities for generations, each is a reminder of the past and the progress we have made, while recognizing there is much more work to be done.

As a lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, born and raised in Gary, Indiana, I had the opportunity to witness a truly historic moment. In November 1967, residents of Gary went to the polls and elected Richard Gordon Hatcher, a civil rights leader who spoke alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., mayor of the city. His election, along with the election of Carl Burton Stokes of Cleveland, Ohio, marked the first time in our nation's history that American cities with more than 100,000 residents would be led by African American mayors. In January 1968, Mayor Hatcher was sworn into office, a position in which he proudly served for the next twenty years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring those who persevered in the name of equality and social justice. As we reflect on the many historic sites throughout America that have played such a critical role in changing our nation's landscape, let us never forget the struggle of our predecessors while continuing the pursuit of the betterment of society for all.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED CHIEF JIMMY CAGLE OF BERRYDALE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and dedicated service of Chief Jimmy Cagle of Berrydale, Florida who died on January 24, 2016. Chief Cagle was a patriot, committed community leader, and devoted family man, and Northwest Florida mourns his passing.

For more than two decades, Chief Cagle served our Nation honorably in the United States Navy as a boiler tender and firefighter. Following his military service, Chief Cagle continued his service to his local community and joined the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department, where he served as Chief for 25 years. Under his steadfast leadership, the residents of the Berrydale community slept soundly, knowing that they are under the watchful eye of the Berrydale Volunteer Fire Department.

Through his service, Chief Cagle became a staple in Northwest Florida. Those who knew him best can truly attest to his selflessness and compassion. He will be remembered for devotion to the Berrydale community and fire department, which was rivaled only by his love for his family.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life of Chief Jimmy Cagle. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and deepest condolences to his wife of 25 years, Debbie; daughter, Conda and her husband, Randy Sasser; son, Jim; grandchildren, Kassie and her husband, Matt DiMase, Lt. Josh Sasser and his wife, Katie, Chelsea and her husband, Staff Sgt. Cody Belcher, and Kaitlyn, Brianna, and Cody Pugh; great-grandchildren: Reece, Kolby, Kennedy, Landon, Mattingly, and Macelynn; and the entire Cagle and fire department families.

HONORING MR. RONALD V. DELLUMS

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ronald V. Dellums on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Mr. Dellums has had an incredible career in public service, advocating for change and reform in many areas of government affairs.

A proud Oakland native. Ron attended both McClymonds and Oakland Technical High School, and went on to graduate from San Francisco State University after serving for two years in the United States Marine Corps. He later obtained his Masters of Social Work from the University of California, Berkeley.

Mr. Dellums began his career as a psychiatric social worker and political activist for the African-American community. In 1967, he was elected to the Berkeley City Council, where he provided three years of extraordinary service. In 1970, he was elected to serve the 9th Congressional District of California in the United States House of Representatives. During his 27-year tenure in Congress, Mr. Dellums fought strongly for peace, justice and equality. As a freshman member, he adamantly spoke in opposition to the Vietnam War, going as far as setting up an exhibit of war crimes next to his office.

For fourteen years, he campaigned to end the apartheid policies in South Africa. In 1986, the U.S. House of Representatives passed his sponsored legislation, the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act, which placed trade restrictions against South Africa and led to immediate withdrawal by American firms. Although the bill had broad bipartisan support, it was vetoed by President Ronald Reagan. However, the Senate and the House overrode

Reagan's veto, making it the first ever override of a presidential foreign policy veto. Mr. Dellums served as Chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services where he advocated for the inclusion of gays and lesbians in the military. Furthermore, Ron co-founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971, an organization representing African-American members of the United States Congress.

Mr. Dellums retired from Congress in 1998 but continued his public service as a legislative lobbyist in Washington, D.C. He served many clients including the Peralta Community College District, AC Transit, and the San Francisco International Airport. In 2006, he was elected Mayor of Oakland and he immediately worked to address the city's public safety issues by implementing a community policing program and was able to bring the city's police force to 837 officers, the highest in the Department's history.

On a personal note, I am honored to have served as an intern and member of Ron's staff for eleven years. He taught his staff to stand on principle and for what was right, even if it was politically unpopular. He reminded me and his entire staff to provide quality constituent services and casework, for we were hired to "serve the people." Ron also taught us the art and skill of negotiation, even with those we disagree with, and to achieve results without compromising our principles. He exemplified the finest in public service and set a new standard for elected officials. For that, we are deeply grateful.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District, celebrate the extraordinary life and service of Mr. Ronald V. Dellums and wish him continued success, happiness, and well-being for many years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING JAMES B. FLAWS

#### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent, James B. Flaws, who recently retired after a 42-year career with Corning Incorporated.

Jim joined Corning Inc. as a financial analyst in 1973. He quickly worked his way up the corporate ladder and into the company's executive leadership. He has spent the past 22 years in various leadership positions, including chief financial officer, vice chairman, and a member of the company's board of directors. Jim has managed countless projects and strategic initiatives, from the spin-off of Corning Inc.'s healthcare businesses in 1996 to the acquisition of the Samsung Corning Precision Materials business in 2014.

Jim's outstanding work earned him the distinction of being named to the Conference Board's prestigious Council of Finance Executives. In addition, he was recognized as one of America's Best CFOs three times by Institutional Investor magazine.

Jim has spent the past four decades serving his local community in our shared hometown of Corning, New York. He has served on the boards of trustees for the Corning Museum of Glass, the Corning Foundation, and the United Way of the Southern Tier. In addition, Jim was instrumental in the founding of the Corning

Children's Center, which provides high-quality care and education to local children.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jim Flaws on a remarkable 42-year career with Corning Inc., and wishing him all the best in his retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LEGENDARY LUTHER R. "LUKE MCCOY" EASON

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of the legendary Luther R. "Luke McCoy" Eason. His contributions to our great Nation and the lasting impact he has made on the local Northwest Florida community will be felt for years to come, and the entire Gulf Coast region mourns the passing of this truly talented and remarkable man.

An Alabama native, Luke moved to Pensacola, Florida in high school in 1956. Upon graduation the following year from Pensacola High School, Luke honorably served in the United States Army as part of the 82nd Airborne Division and later in the United States Marine Corps. During his military service, Luke saw combat in Vietnam, and he was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained while defending our Nation.

In the 1960s, Luke hit the airwaves, beginning his exceptionally successful career in broadcasting. While he could be heard throughout the country—in Cincinnati, Denver, and Chattanooga—it was most notably in Pensacola, where he became well known as a disk jockey and a beloved Talk Radio personality. In 1993, Luke joined WCOA first as co-host of the morning program and then became the distinguished voice of "Pensacola Speaks," holding the longest tenure of any former host.

After 40 years in the radio industry, Luke hung up the headphones and microphone in 2008, spending his retirement days with his wife Kathy in her native South Carolina, where he enjoyed his other passion—motorcycles and the thrill of the ride.

To some Luke McCoy will be remembered as a fellow comrade on the battlefield; to others he will be remembered as the "Common Man's Intellectual" and for his company and entertainment over the airwaves; to his friends and family, he will be most fondly remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize the life and legacy of Luke McCoy. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Katherine Felton "Kathy" Eason of North Augusta, South Carolina; son, Michael Holzapfel and his wife, Roxana, of Tempe, Arizona; daughters Sarah Paige and her husband, Michael, and Jeanie Cossman of Pensacola; grandchildren, Cassidy Paige, Emma Cossman and Alex Cossman of Pensacola; sister, Bonnie Eason Alverson of Gulf Breeze; brother, Benjamin L. Eason and his wife, Barbara, of Arlington, Virginia; and the entire Eason family.

#### HONORING THE NATIONAL CARES MENTORING MOVEMENT

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National CARES Mentoring Movement on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary Gala, "For the Love of Our Children: A National Call to Commitment." On January 25, 2016, National CARES celebrated the work it has done to break the cycle of intergenerational Black poverty, and its deepening commitment to the critical work that remains.

Founded by Susan L. Taylor in 2006 under the moniker "Essence CARES", the National CARES Mentoring Movement was established to protect and elevate our nation's most vulnerable children. Ms. Taylor's vision for Essence CARES first arose in 2005, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Today, the National CARES Mentoring Movement has grown into an organization focused on community mobilization comprised of local affiliates in 58 cities across the nation. These affiliates recruit, train, and place mentors in schools and youth-serving programs. To date, more than 150,000 men and women have served as CARES mentors with organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and many more.

The National CARES Mentoring Movement is the only national organization working with youth groups and schools to build culturally competent STEM-literacy training and workforce-readiness programs. Its initiatives, known as "The Risings," are working to build capacity in some of our nation's most blighted black communities. Designed to heal trauma and transform lives, The Rising initiatives focus on the academic, social, and emotional development of children who are living in deep poverty.

One of the initiatives, known as HBCU Rising, is based in Atlanta and is designed to be replicated through the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) system. It interweaves strong workforce-development and career-readiness skills for college-student mentors and the middle school children they serve. The Rising also operates in challenged high schools across the nation, guiding students through interactive lessons designed to encourage critical thinking skills, excellence in academics, and preparation for success in college and careers.

On a personal note, I want to thank Susan for her wise counsel, her tremendous leadership, her inspiration and her friendship. It is her loving spirit that keeps us hopeful for a better world for our children. This milestone in her life reminds us that we too must and can lead a purposeful life to secure the future for our children. For this, along with so many who honor and celebrate her at this important moment in her journey, I am deeply grateful.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate the National CARES Mentoring Movement on 10 years of exemplary service. We wish them continued success as they continue to work to ensure the healing, social, and academic wellness of some of our nation's most defenseless—African-American children. Again, I